

# The Birth of Jesus Christ

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## **Introduction**

The entrance of Christ into the world is a major theme of the Bible. Let us consider God's actions and man's reactions as they related to this great event.

## **God's Action**

### ***A Prophesied Time***

The birth of Jesus Christ was a prophesied time. Moses foreshadowed that salvation would come through the seed of woman (Gen. 3:15; Gal. 4:4-5). Isaiah anticipated the entrance of deity into the fleshly world (Isa. 7:14; 9:6-7; John 1:1-3, 14). Micah predicted the lowly circumstances of the Messiah's birth (Mic. 5:2; Luke 2:1-7; Phil. 2:1-8).

### ***A Perfect Time***

The birth of Jesus Christ occurred at the perfect time. Jesus came preaching, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:14-15). Paul described the first century as "the fullness of time/times" (Gal. 4:4-5; Eph. 1:9-11). Elsewhere, this epoch is described as "the right time" (Rom. 5:6) or "the proper time" (1 Tim. 2:5-6).

## **Man's Reaction**

### ***A Perplexing Time***

The birth of Jesus Christ was/is a perplexing time. The people were mystified at the events associated with John's birth (Luke 1:5-25, 57-66). Mary wondered at the report of the shepherds (Luke 2:15-20). King Herod was troubled at the message of the Magi (Matt. 2:1-8; cf. Luke 2:41-51).

### ***A Presumptuous Time***

The birth of Jesus Christ has become a presumptuous time. God has never allowed mankind to change the message of truth (Deut. 4:1-2; Gal. 1:6-9). Unauthorized preaching and practice

results in condemnation (Matt. 7:21-23; 15:8-9). This principle specifically applies to those who bind the observance of days, months, seasons and years (Gal. 4:8-11; Col. 2:16-17).

## **Conclusion**

Trust in all that Scripture teaches about the birth of Jesus Christ. Rejoice that God sent his only begotten Son into the world. However, let us avoid the unauthorized Christmas observances so widely practiced in the denominational world (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 4:11).